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**NAESB Membership Ratifies Major Set of Wholesale Electric Standards; Filing at FERC Will Be Made Later this Month**

HOUSTON – The membership of the North American Energy Standards Board (NAESB) ratified a major set of wholesale electric standards Dec. 31.

The standards developed by NAESB's Wholesale Electric Quadrant (WEQ) relate to:

- Version 0, a process whereby NAESB and the North American Electric Reliability Council (NERC) worked together to separate the existing NERC reliability operating policies into NERC reliability standards and NAESB business practice standards.

- FERC regulations implementing the Open Access Same-Time Information System (OASIS).

NAESB will file these standards later this month with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

“The significance of this filing is that these are the first wholesale electric standards to be approved by NAESB and filed with FERC,” said NAESB Board Chairman Michael Desselle, director of public policy, American Electric Power.

He added, “These standards establish a strong foundation of business practices to support the electric marketplace. They are the result of hard work by NAESB members, volunteers, trade associations and industry organizations. In the case of the version 0 standards, NAESB and NERC developed an excellent working relationship that will continue to benefit the entire electric industry.”

While this is NAESB’s inaugural filing for wholesale electric business practices, NAESB and its predecessor, the Gas Industry Standards Board, have made business practices filings with FERC since 1996.

NAESB, formed in January 2002, is an independent and voluntary North American organization that develops and promotes the use of business practices and electronic communications standards for the wholesale and retail natural gas and electricity industries. NAESB is the successor to and is modeled after the Gas Industry Standards Board, which was established in 1994 and now constitutes the wholesale gas quadrant of NAESB. NAESB’s members include over 300 companies and organizations that participate actively in the retail and wholesale natural gas and electricity markets.

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